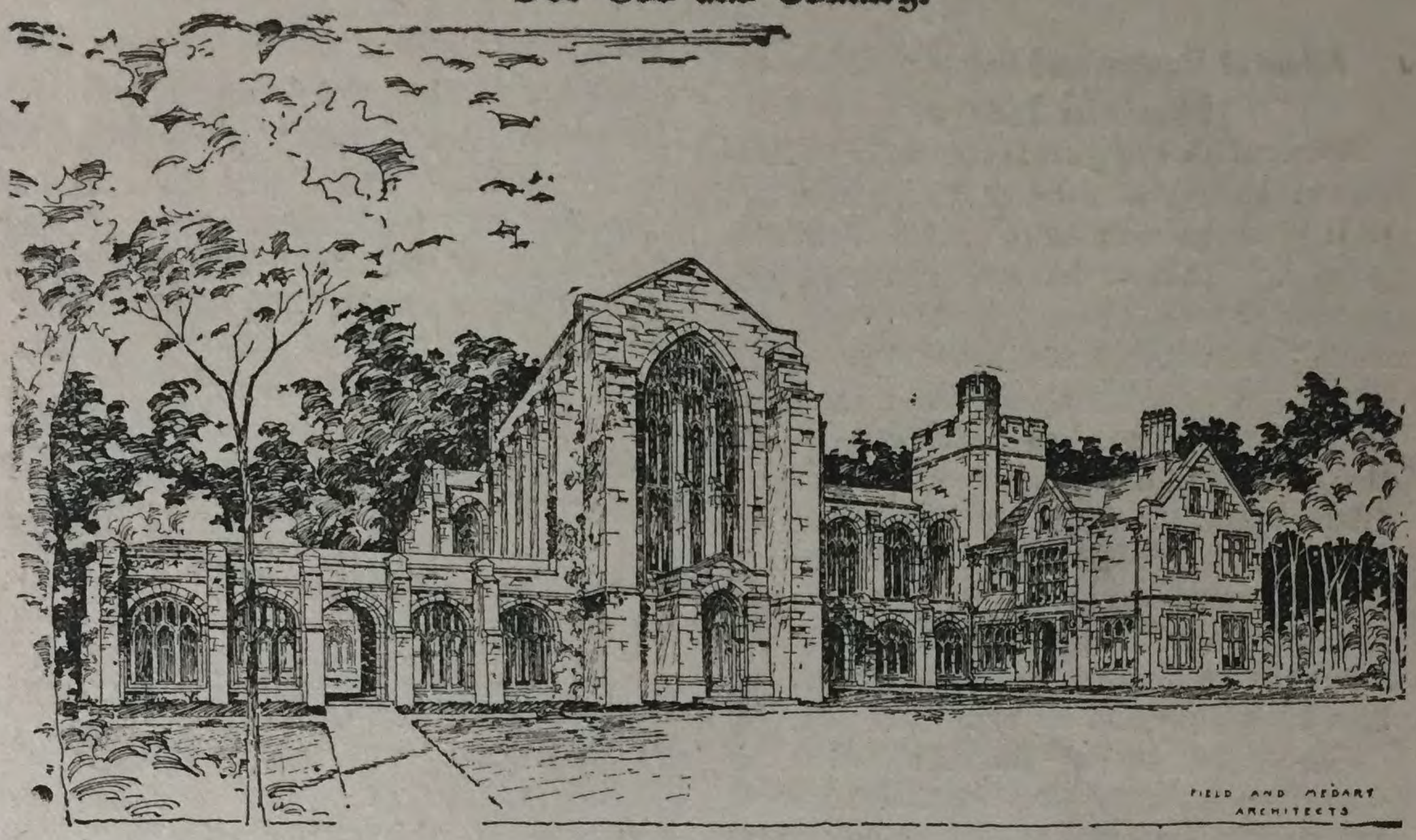
"For God and Country.



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Library

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A MONTHLY RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK, Editor and Publisher. The Defenders' Gate, Valley Forge.

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A Word of Cheer.

It is a source of regret to many interested in the Chapel that nothing has been done toward the completion of the building in the past summer, except the addition of the New York Bay in the Cloister of the Colonies, the placing of the Commander-in-chief's Door, and of the New Jersey State Panel in the Roof of the Republic. But real progress has been made. A promise of over $10,000 for memorials is no small thing in a work like this. Plans must be matured, interest aroused, and then people must be brought to the point to decide to give not some time, but now. Nothing could better attest the international importance of this memorial to Washington than the tribute paid to it by the representatives of the two great Anglo-Saxon Nations. The visit of Gen. Codrington and his Britannic Majesty's Consul Wilfred Powell and the gift of Admiral Dewey are an evidence of what this work is to the two great Nations.

Admiral Dewey and the Washington Memorial Library.

Admiral Dewey has honored the Washington Memorial Library by presenting to it an Autograph Copy of his Autobiography. This is another notable addition to the Collection of American Authors' Presentation Copies. The Book itself, apart from its personal interest, is an important one. It deals with one of the most brilliant chapters of American History and gives the events as they occurred. It is thus one of the important source books of the Nation's progress. Admiral Dewey has produced a book, not only full of historic interest, but written in a style that has its own attracion.

Slowly, but surely this Collection of American Authors' Presentation Copies is growing in importance and value. Men and women in the fore-front of American Literature have already made their contributions to this unique tribute to "Washington, the Book Lover." Their example will be followed with ever increasing enthusiasm and the day is not far distant when this Collection will be one of the notable objects of interest at Valley Forge.

An effort to reproduce, volume for volume, Washington's Library, which is another of Mr. Burk's ideas for the Library, has made little progress in the past few months. A good beginning has been made and the end is kept persistently in view, so that the ultimate result cannot be doubted. But this work will require both money and time, and the Librarian is restricted along both lines.

The Convocation of Norristown.

The Convocation of Norristown held its fall meeting in Christ Church, Upper Merion, on Thursday, Oct. 25, 1913. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Robert Johnston, Rector of the Church of Our Saviour, Philadelphia. The sermon was remarkable in many ways. The preacher brought to each one the most searching questions and produced a deep effect upon the congregation. The Woman's Auxiliary to the Convocation was addressed by Dean Burk, who expressed his regret at the absence of the Bishop. The Auxiliary had a large attendance. Miss Mary M. Hibbs, President, presided, and encouraging reports were presented. Among the work done was the changing of the name of the Auxiliary to the "Woman's Aid to the Convocation of Norristown." Ten dollars were appropriated to Dean Burk for his work at Gulph Mills and a committee was appointed to secure Prayer Books and Hymnals for this growing Mission.

A bountiful luncheon was served by the members of Christ Church in the new Parish House. This new building is admirably adapted for the work. The members of the Convocation were enthusiastic in their praise of this new equipment for the work of the Parish. The Dean made an address expressing the gratification of the Convocation upon this sign of progress and growth, and introduced the latest addition to the ranks of the Clergy in the bounds of the Convocation, the Rector of Christ Church, Pottstown, the Rev. Stanley R. West. He, on behalf of the guests of the day, thanked the hostesses for their hospitality.

The Dean presided at the Business Meeting, which was held in the Church. The reports of the Missionaries told of the work done during the summer and of the needs and hopes of the workers. The Dean reported the progress made at Trinity Mission, Gulph Mills, where twenty-one had been confirmed, a Sunday school of eighty-nine gathered, the teachers trained in a regular Teacher Training Class conducted by the Dean, and a deep interest aroused in the community for this work. A lot was selected, but the title had not been taken on account of some difficulies which have fortunately been removed. Plans are being prepared for the building and work on this will be begun as soon as the plans are approved by the Church Build-

ing Commission. The members of the Mission have raised over $500 during the past summer toward their building. An appropriation was made of $300 to the Dean for his personal use. In acknowledgment of this courtesy the Dean thanked the members of the Convocation and stated, what was unknown to most of the members, that the purpose of its appropriation was to keep him at Valley Forge. The next meeting of the Convocation will be at St. Peter's Church, Phoenixville.

Meeting of the Vestry.

The Vestry held a meeting on Monday, November 3, 1913, the first time since March. The Rector opened the meeting with Prayer. The quorum consisted of Messrs. Hughes, Summerill, Quigg, Charles Wells Walker and Clayland S. Walker. Of course it was impossible to transact all the business after such an interval.

Mr. Quigg reported that the Treasurer of the Building Fund and he had completed the report for Bishop Garland and had sent the same to him. He also reported that he and the Rector had had a conference wih Mr. Medary and had arranged the bills for the architect's commissions satisfactorily, separating the amounts for memorials. The balance due for memorials was ordered paid and also the bill for the design for the chalice. Mr. Quigg also reported that Mr. Ellsworth Houpt had been secured for sexton to take the place of Mr. William Rumford, who resigned. A number of bills for work were presented and ordered paid. Mr. Quigg reported that five hundred dollars ($500) had been sent by Mr. Jefferis, the Treasurer, of the Building Fund to Mrs. Zulich, Treasurer of the Endowment Fund. This sum came from the memorials placed in the past summer. The Rector reported that during the past few months he had received promises for memorials amounting to over ten thousand dollars ($10,000). A list of these was given to the Vestry. The Rector also reported an offer of two buildings for the Valley Forge Museum of American History and recommended that a comprehensive design for the building to incorporate these gifts and others which will be received should be prepared by a competent architect so that whatever work was done would be toward the accomplishment of the full design. The matter was discussed at some length, but unfortunately no action was taken. The Rector also reported the action of the Convocation in the appropriating three hundred dollars ($300) for his personal use. He explained the object of this and said that he feared the time had come when he must look for another field of labor. This was not a decision reached through lack of interest or enthusiasm, but was simply due to the fact that the expenses were so great that he was unable to meet them. The expense for rent, automobile, and postal service (carrier from Valley Forge) since the first of the January had been over twelve hundred dollars ($1200). Of course no man could live on three hunded dollars ($300). Mr. Burk stated that he made this explanation in order that the members of the Vestry might understand the situation. Mr. Burk reported the receipt of the Lilla S. Pechin stamp collection and other valuable relics for the Museum.

Mr. Charles Lynch presented to the Museum a magnificent piece of Japanese embroidery made at Nagasaki. It represents the arms of the United States and was made for one of the officers of the United States Navy when the ports of Japan were opened to the world.

Mr. Donald F. Schumann, of the Philadelphia Divinity School, will assist the Rev. Mr. Burk in his work at Gulph Mills and King-of-Prussia. Mr. Schumann entered upon his duties on Sunday, November 9th.

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Mr. Frank Quigg, Vestry's Warden, Port Kennedy, Pa.
Mr. Edward H. Binns, Rector's Warden, Pittsburgh, Pa.

VESTRYMEN.

Mr. Edward H. Binns, Mr. Thomas H. Dobson, Gen. B. F. Fisher, Mr. Nathan B. Hughes, Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. S. Col. Summerill, Mr. Clayland Stephens Walker, Mr. Charles Wells Walker.

Sundays.

10.45 A. M. Service and Sermon.
2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.
Holy Communion, First Sunday.
The Parish House, King-of-Prussia:
9 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
7.30 P. M. Service and Sermon.
Saints' Days, 9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.

Calendar.

NOVEMBER.

16. Twenty-sixth Sunday after Trinity.
20. 8 p. m. Service and sermon, Gulph Mills.
23. Sunday next before Advent.
27. Thanksgiving Day.
    10 a. m. Service, sermon and Holy Communion.
    4 p. m. Service and Sermon, King-of-Prussia.
    8 p. m. Service and sermon, Gulph Mills.
30. First Sunday in Advent. St. Andrew the Apostle.

DECEMBER.

1. 8 p. m. Vestry meeting.
3. 2.30 p. m. Meeting of the Guild.
4. 8 p. m. Service and sermon, Gulph Mills.
7. Second Sunday in Advent.
11. 8 p. m. Service and sermon, Gulph Mills.
14. Third Sunday in Advent.

The offerings at all our services on Thanksgiving Day will be for the Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia. The members of the Sunday schools will make offerings in fruits, vegetables, groceries, preserves and jellies for Charity Hospital, Norristown.

The Rector has begun his Winter work in teacher training. He is to deliver ten lectures at the Church of the Atonement, West Philadelphia on Religious Pedagogy in connection with Professor Foley of the Divinity School. On Saturday afternoons he will lecture at the Church House on the Prayer Book.

The girls who visit the Museum find a new object of interest in a large doll's cradle of the olden times, and a doll lying in it. The Curator hopes that this will be the beginning of a collection of "Children's Toys." Child life is a part of the history of the Nation. Among the remains of Egypt the toys of the children form an important group. The old-fashioned books and toys are rapidly lost sight of, but they ought to be preserved in our Museums in order that future generations may understand the childhood of the past. No better Memorial of a beloved child could be made than such a collection, and the Curator hopes there may be found one or two persons who will be interested in this line of Historical research. Will not our readers bear this collection in mind and gather such toys and dolls as will add to the importance and interest of this collection?

The First Communion.

Sunday, October 26, began with a storm and it seemed as if few people would attend the services appointed for that day. However, at both King-of-Prussia and Gulph Mills there were good congregations. It was a memorable day for both congregations, for at each place there was the first service of Holy Communion.

At King-of-Prussia, where the work was in the care of the Rev. Francis F. H. Finn, there were services of the Holy Communion, but since Mr. Burk has had the entire charge it has, heretofore, been impossible to arrange for these services.

The service at King-of-Prussia followed the Sunday School, and consisted of the Holy Communion. At Gulph Mills the service was at 11 o'clock and here the service was that of Morning Prayer, Sermon and Holy Communion. There was a large congregation and the spirit of the service was one of reverence. It was the first Communion of the newly-confirmed and Mr. Burk preached on the significance of the service. Later he was present at the session of the Sunday School and in the evening the Rev. J. Frederick Weinmann officiated.

Representatives of the King of England at Valley Forge.

Wednesday, October 22, 1913, was another Red-Letter day for Valley Forge. The British officers, who represented the King of England at the dedication of the monument to Major General Edward Braddock, and his Britannic Majesty's Consul, the Hon. Wilfred Powell with Colonel John S. Muckle, visited Valley Forge. The party consisted of Captain J. H. J. Phillips, Captain A. F. M. Constable and Lieutenant R. Wavell-Paxton. The Rev. Mr. Burk met the party at Washington's Headquarters. Unfortunately, on account of some delay, only Gen. Codrington, the British Consul and Colonel Muckle arrived in time to visit the entire encampment. The rest of the party, under the care of Captain J. Franklin McFadden arrived later and thus missed many of the interesting points.

Mr. Burk took the party from Washington's Headquarters up the Valley Creek to study the strong defense in the rear of the American line. They stopped at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Tindle to pay their compliments and from there they entered the Park and visited all the points of interest.

General Codrington showed the keenest interest in the position of the American lines. He was greatly impressed with the beauty of the park as developed by the VALLEY FORGE PARK COMMISSION. He said, that he felt it would be a mistake to allow the erection of promiscuous Monuments. He said some comprehensive scheme of embellishment should be determined by a competent authority and no monument should be erected which was not a part of this plan. Mr. Burk pointed out the line of march of the British army, under General Howe on the 23d of September, 1777, when he left Valley Forge to occupy Philadelphia.

The Washington Memorial Chapel and the Valley Forge Museum of American History were a revelation to General Codrington. Mr. Powell knew of the Chapel and on the occasion of the dedication of the lectern he made a notable address in which he spoke of the Chapel as "the American Westminster," because it contained so many memorials to American patriots. General Codrington expressed the hope that no monument would ever be erected to spoil the interior of the Chapel. Of course the Lectern, which is the only memorial of a British soldier at Valley Forge, greatly interested the party. Mr. Brice, the British Ambassador, had considered this memorial at Valley Forge a tribute to the British Empire and with this view the visitors coincided.

The inscription on the base of the

Lectern is "George Washington read the Prayer Book Office for the Burial of the Dead at the Interment of Major-General Edward Braddock, July 14, 1755."

In the Museum there were many objects which attracted attention. Of course Washington's Marquee and his flag were the center of interest and yet there were so many other objects with their historic significance that the time was too short to see it all. The uniforms, especially those of the Revolution, attracted considerable attention. In leaving General Codrington was most solicitious about the care of these treasures. He considered the museum remarkable for the historic material gathered and said every precaution should be taken for the preservation of these invaluable relics. He was eager to know whether the British cannon in front of the Chapel had been captured. Mr. Burk was not able to give the information on this point. General Codrington made the suggestion that no carriages should be allowed to drive through the Cloister of the Colonies. He said, that he thought such a spot should be approached only on foot and that the present driveways should be sodded and the whole garth kept in grass. The beauty of the Cloister and the ideas included in it appealed strongly to all the members of the party.

After leaving Valley Forge the entire party went to Captain J. Franklin McFadden's Radnor Valley Farm, Rosemont, for luncheon. Later they were given a reception by the Trans-Atlantic Society at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. L. Webster Fox and in the evening the First City Troop, in full dress nniforms, paid their respects to the visiting army officers..

Another interesting uniform has been added to the collection. This consists of a gray coat worn by Washington Grays, one of the old leather knap-sacks and a cartridge box. On the knap-sack, which bears the letters W. A., is pasted the following cutting taken from "The Bulletin":

"In the early days of the State Militia, when it was composed of independent companies, it was customary to give them distinctive names; little has been handed down regarding the Washington Blues, who lost their identity during the Civil War. Their name was, of course, based upon the color of their uniform. The Washington Grays have been more fortunate, although long out of existence as a separate command. The organization is perpetuated in the First Regiment, N. G. P., of which descendants of the Grays form a company and the Veterans Corps. The precise date of their organization is unknown, but it has been given as April 20, 1822. Their first anniversary parade was on April 17, 1823. Organized as 'Elite Corps of Light Infantry' the company subsequently became known as 'Light Artillery.' The title of Artillery Corps of Washington Grays was assumed, by act of the Legislature, on April 15, 1843, and the company previously independent, became in June of that year 'C Company' of the New First Artillery Regiment. After the Civil War the remnant of the 'Grays' was reorganized, after some effort, and was incorporated, by special act of the Pennsylvania Legislature, April 15, 1867, as the Washington Grays; the command was subsequently assigned to the Third Regiment and then transferred to the First Regiment, N. G. P., which had been organized by the Gray Reserves, April 17, 1861. The original uniforms of the organization differ somewhat from that worn after the Civil War: that first worn was gray 'splashed with crimson,' while after the reorganization a uniform patterned after that of the Seventh New York was adopted."

These articles were purchased by the Curator at private sale.

The mission at Gulph Mills has been named Trinity by Bishop Garland because the first services were held by Dean Burk on Trinity Sunday, 1913.

History of Valley Forge.

BY HENRY WOODMAN.

Norristown Herald and Free Press, Sept. 18, 1850.

LETTER XIX.

In commencing this communication, I shall commence with the departure of the army from this place; this occurred in the fore part of the summer of 1778. The same caution that had rendered it necessary upon their arrival to conduct their marches with as much secrecy as possible, was as essential at the time of their departure, and little or no notice was given to the main body of the army, or to the inhabitants of the vicinity, of their removal, previous to the morning of their march. The British having evacuated Philadelphia, our troops took possession of it the same day. Leaving the encampment at Valley Forge was so unexpected to the soldiers, that I was once informed by a woman who baked bread for the army, that she had received from the soldiers her usual supply of flour, to be baked for them on the day of their departure, all of which were left on her hands, furnishing her and her family with an unexpected and welcome supply of the staff of life. I have also heard it related, that soon after their departure, there was found in the camp, by persons whom curiosity had led them to visit the place, in huts where baking and other culinary operations were performed, batches of dough left in an unbaked state, on account of their sudden march; and also, many of their utensils, such as camp kettles, cabooses (one of which I believe is in our family at this time), axes, canteens, and numerous other articles that could not be collected or carried off, in the hurry of the occasion. It was a very common thing, since my recollection, to find on the ground some memento of that period. I have often, in company with my elder brothers and other boys, sometimes with grown persons, generally strangers, who, when in the neighborhood, had a curiosity to visit the place, and sometimes alone have I spent hours in traversing the ground in search of these relics of the revolution—not that they were of any great value, but to possess them as curiosities to remind us of that period. There is even at the present day, sometimes an occasional relic of that day turned up by the ploughshare. But I am digressing from the subject of their departure, and must return to it; and by introducing a fanciful view of the time and place, endeavor to show my readers the distressed situation and appearance of the place. I must request them, in idea at least, to accompany me to the neighborhood of the place and the scenes I have been describing. Let us fancy ourselves arrived there, and in imagination let us consider it to be in the midsummer of 1778, and that we are standing on Mordecai Moore's fort, from which, in every direction that we turn our eyes, on both sides of the Schuylkill, we behold from the eminence, particularly on the western side in the Great Valley a portion of country excelled by very few, if any, in fertility, in the State of Pennsylvania, and lately fruitful as the rich land of Goshen, and beautiful to look upon as the well watered plains of Jordan, and if rightly improved would produce abundance. But all around is nothing but desolation; the fields are destitute of vegetation, and the lands once so highly productive, lie uncultivated and without enclosure. The trees of the forest are all cut down, and nothing but the stumps left remaining—wasting destruction and devastation are apparent wherever we turn our eyes on that side of the river. This gloomy prospect leads us to enquire why are these things so? Let us now imagine that we fall in company with some of the Moore's, and Walker's, or Stephens', or other of the worthies of that day, who from severe experience had known the causes that had produced these effects—and they would inform us in answer to our questions, that they were produced by the encampment at that

place—that they were the effects of it. They would explain to us the use of the fortifications and redoubts, and show us the pickets; then pointing to the South and West, would show us the miserable huts that were hastily erected to shelter thes poor, famished and suffering soldiers from the inclement storms of the preceding winter, and directing our attention to the place lately abounding with the lofty towering oaks, and other stately forest trees, and to their fertile lands now lying a common; they would tell us their timber was cut down and their fences taken to construct the huts and pickets, and to furnish fuel for the soldiers, to preserve them from the cold chilling wind, and driving snow. It was thus they would inform us of the causes that had thus laid waste that fair portion of country and at the same time relate to us many interesting anecdotes of that period, which have never been published. They would ask us to accompany them to Valley Forge, and there they would point to us the same feature of desolation, though not the same fertility of soil, all lying waste; they would show us the naked walls of the buildings lately burned by the enemy, and tell us that where there is now nothing but a gloomy silence, was lately heard the sound of the hammer, and the hum of business; and there was seen the hardy laborer, busily engaged in manufacturing iron for useful and peaceful purposes, but now, all is still, gloomy, and death-like. From thence they would conduct us to other parts of the ground occupied by the encampment, and in all our rambles the same evidence of desolation would be still apparent everywhere in the course of the journey—for the fruitful field had become desolate, and the garden a waste place. But while showing us the dreary state of things, and though for the present discouraged under the prospect of things, and the state of affairs, yet they would express a hope of the return of better days, when their waste places should through industry be again restored, and their gardens now desolate should blossom as the rose, and peace return, like the dove bearing the olive branch, and be again established in our borders.

I shall now leave this imaginary scene, which has been introduced as a picture to show the state of the place, after the army had removed from there; and that I might, in some of my future numbers, contrast it with its present appearance. I shall proceed to remark, that it is not my intention to pursue the movements of the army any further after leaving the place, my object being to give as nearly as I possibly can, a history of the Valley Forge, as promised in my first letter. The movements and condition of the army after leaving that place, has heretofore, very little if anything further to do with the subject. Those that wish further information on that head, are referred to historics of the revolution. Neither is it necessary for me to dwell much on that period of time, that elapsed between their removal from this place to the final establishment of our independence by the treaty of Amens, a period of nearly five years—as nothing of much importance occurred in that time that need require notice. In my next, I shall refer to some matters relating to the sufferings of the people, and the huts that were left on the land of different persons in the lines of the encampment, and the difficulties they met on account of the loss of their property.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

An object that has been interesting the visitors of the Museum is a Wooden Lock. It was placed in a mill at Glen Moore, Chester Co., by James Moore in 1751. It is 6¾ inches wide and 11½ inches long and 1 inch thick. It was presented to Mr. Charles Pennypacker by Mr. James McCann, December 2, 1905. The Curator purchased it from the Pennypacker Estate.